

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/348,502

Applicant(s)

DONESCU, IOANA

Examiner

Art Unit

Anand Bhatnagar

2623

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 12/27/04.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1,3-7,9-38 and 81-86.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 07 July 1999 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 6. <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____ |
| 3. <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____ | 7. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment |
| 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material | 8. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance |
| | 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ |

Continued Examination Under 37 CFR 1.114

1. A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on 12/27/04 has been entered.

Election/Restrictions

2. Applicant's election of species I in the reply filed on 09/25/02 is acknowledged. Because applicant did not distinctly and specifically point out the supposed errors in the restriction requirement, the election has been treated as an election without traverse (MPEP § 818.03(a)). Applicant elected species I corresponding to fig. 7 (claims 1-38). This case is in the condition for allowance except for the non-elected claims (#39-#80) without traverse. Accordingly, claims 39-80 have been cancelled by examiner's amendment.

Response to Arguments

3. Applicant has canceled claims 2 and 8. Applicant has amended claims 1, 7, 85, and 86. Applicant had previously withdrawn claims 39-80. Claims 1, 3-7, 9-38, and 81-86 are pending.

Allowable Subject Matter

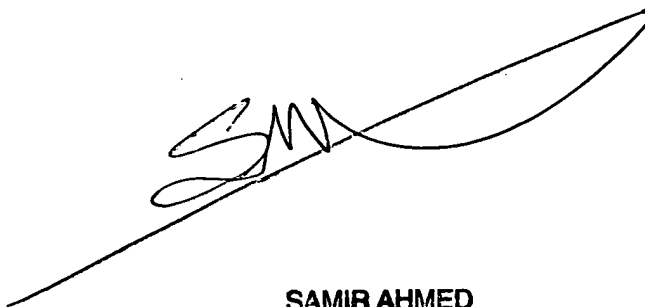
4. Claims 1, 3-7, 9-38, and 81-86 are allowed.
5. The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter: Applicant's arguments, see RCE remarks on pages 28-30, filed 12/27/04, with respect to claims 1, 7, 85, and 86 have been fully considered and are persuasive. The 35USC 103 (a) rejection of claims 1, 3, 4, 6, 7, 9, 10, 12, 25, 27, 29, 31, 33, 35, 37, 81, 82, 85, and 86 of has been withdrawn. Regarding claims 14 and 19, the closest prior art of Manjunath et al. discloses to embed a signature in a host image wherein the host image undergoes a transformation by a DWT and/or DCT prior to the signature being embedded into components of the host image. The prior art of Manjunath et al. does not teach the feature(s) of "estimating, by subtraction respectively of the components of said subset of watermarked digital data from the components of said subset of initial digital data, an estimated sequence of modulation values, generation of a presupposed sequence of modulation values inserted at the modulation step of said insertion method, calculation of a correlation value between the estimated sequence and the presupposed sequence, and decision on the similarity or otherwise of the estimated sequence and presupposed sequence (W) as a function of said correlation value," that, in combination with the other respective claim limitations.
6. Any comments considered necessary by the applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays,

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should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance".

Contact Information

7. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Anand Bhatnagar whose telephone number is (703) 306-5914, whose supervisor is Amelia Au whose number is 703-308-6604, group fax is 703-872-9306, and Tech center 2600 customer service office number is 703-306-0377.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'SAMIR AHMED', with a long, sweeping horizontal line extending to the left.

**SAMIR AHMED
PRIMARY EXAMINER**

Handwritten initials 'AB' in black ink.

Anand Bhatnagar

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March 16, 2005

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Applicant's election of species I in the reply filed on 09/25/02 is acknowledged. Because applicant did not distinctly and specifically point out the supposed errors in the restriction requirement, the election has been treated as an election without traverse (MPEP § 818.03(a)). This case is in the condition for allowance except for the non-elected claims (#39-#80) without traverse. Accordingly, claims 39-80 have been canceled.

The application has been amended as follows:

Please cancel claims 39-80.

Contact Information

2. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Anand Bhatnagar whose telephone number is (703) 306-5914, whose supervisor is Amelia Au whose number is 703-308-6604, group fax is 703-872-9306, and Tech center 2600 customer service office number is 703-306-0377.

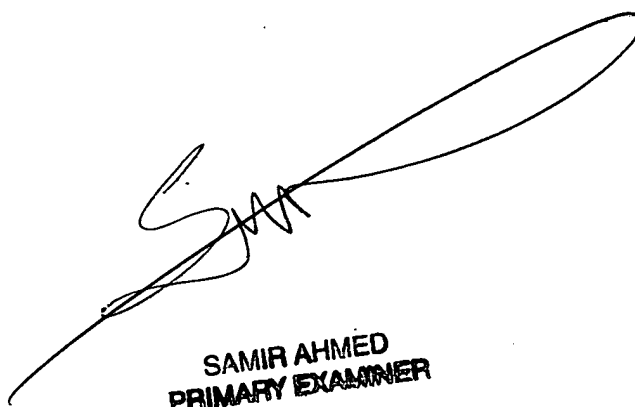
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AB

Anand Bhatnagar

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March 16, 2005



SAMIR AHMED
PRIMARY EXAMINER